

BUILDING TRADES AGREE IN EFFORT FOR COMPROMISE

Workers and Employers to
Meet To-Morrow to Draw
Up Agreement.

The long-standing wage scale controversy in the building trades which has for months threatened to tie up the industry by a general strike is likely to be settled to-morrow, according to Christian G. Norman, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Building Trades Council, Patrick J. Crowley of the Building Trades Council and Thomas J. Williams of the United States Department of Labor.

The Executive Committee of the Council and the Employers' Association will meet at 3 o'clock to-morrow afternoon in an executive session at Room No. 253 in the Metropolitan Tower. At the meeting a definite statement will be drawn up as to the terms sought by each side and an effort will be made to effect a compromise.

This meeting followed a meeting heretofore kept secret at the same place, March 22, between members of the so-called "public group" suggested by the Building Trades Council as part of a mediating committee. Walter Stabler, comptroller of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company; Robert D. Kohn, architect, and Robert E. Simon, real estate operator, and the representatives of the employers' association.

Mr. Crowley had refused to recognize the proposed arbitration on the ground that the Lockwood committee was not representative, though it had spent months familiarizing itself with the building trades association. Samuel Untermyer attended the conference at

Mr. Crowley's insistence. Mr. Untermyer's discussion of the situation was without any particular consideration for the "public group." He told them they were undertaking matters for which they had small qualifications as compared to the Lockwood committee, which had the situation entirely in hand and demanded that they cease complicating the dispute. The conference was at times angry in resentment of Mr. Untermyer's frankness.

As a result the "public group" suggested the getting together of the employers and workers on the basis of Mr. Untermyer's suggestions embodied in the report of the Lockwood committee and to this both sides have agreed.

KEEPER SUSPENDED ON HOLD-UP CHARGE

Douglas Alleged to Have Tried to Rob Brooklyn Man.

Frederick J. Douglas, of No. 63 Clermont Avenue, Brooklyn, a keeper employed on Hart's Island, was charged with attempted robbery in Flatbush Court, Brooklyn, to-day, but was freed when Benjamin Stollitzky, a dentist, of No. 5111 16th Street, Brooklyn, refused to press the charge. Douglas was suspended pending an inquiry.

It was alleged that yesterday afternoon at Empire Boulevard and Flatbush Avenue, with hundreds of people about, Douglas drew a revolver and attempted to rob Stollitzky.

\$45,000 REWARD REVEALS \$80,000 THEFT.

L. E. Sherman, a diamond merchant, of No. 89 Fulton Street, has increased to \$45,000 the reward for the return of \$80,000 worth of unset diamonds stolen from him the afternoon of Feb. 23, when he dined on the B. R. T. subway stairs at Broadway and 10th Street. It was said to-day this is the final bid. He first offered \$25,000, then successively \$30,000, \$35,000 and \$40,000.

BELEMEN ACKNOWLEDGES U. S. CLAIM.

WASHINGTON, April 10.—The United States has received a reply from Belgium recognizing the American claim of \$25,000,000 to cover the costs of the American Army of Occupation in Germany. It was learned to-day at the State Department.

FIRE THREATENS PLANT OF ROOFING CONCERN

Firemen From Three Towns Save All But Two Buildings.

Two one-story frame storehouses, 80 by 70, in the plant of the Flintkote Company, manufacturers of roofing at East Rutherford, N. J., were destroyed by fire to-day. Both contained raw material for the manufacture of roofing. The loss is estimated at \$40,000 to \$50,000. The cause of the fire is unknown. The flames spread rapidly. East Rutherford firemen called for help from Rutherford and Carlstadt, fearing that the entire plant would be burned.

MOTORMAN IN CRASH WITH FIRE TRUCK HELD

Nine Firemen Injured When Car and Apparatus Collide.

Frederick Gibson, of No. 603 East 126th Street, motorman of a Second Avenue car which last night collided with fire truck No. 1 at Second Avenue and 12th Street, appeared in Essex Street Court to-day in answer to a summons as a result of the accident. He was held Magistrate Sweetser in bail of \$500 for examination April 13 for failing to stop on hearing the siren of the fire apparatus. Nine firemen were injured in the accident.

W. K. VANDERBILT HOME FROM FISHING TRIP.

Arrives on Munson Liner From Nassau, Bahamas Islands.

The Munson Liner Munargo arrived to-day with 172 passengers from Nassau, Bahamas Islands, among whom was William K. Vanderbilt, who boarded the vessel at Nassau after a three weeks' fishing trip on his yacht. Passengers declared that the Florida-East Coast Hotel interests were contemplating the building of a hotel to take the place of the Colonial Hotel, which burned to the ground at Nassau three weeks ago. Mr. Vanderbilt had a successful fishing trip, he said. His guests embarked at Miami a week ago, while Mr. Vanderbilt spent several days at Nassau before coming North.

PALM A DISGUISE FOR 'IZZY' AND 'MOE' IN DRY RAIDING

One Bartender Took a Look at Their Faces and Threatened to Throw Them Out.

Who would suspect a man behind a bit of palm, worn on the lapel, on Palm Sunday, was "Izzy" or "Moe"? No one. That is why the disguise of Einstein and Smith, Prohibition agents, was such a complete success. One glance at the palm dispelled the fears of the bartenders, they say, and twenty-six passed over the drink called for by the two thirsty travellers who had just slipped from their handcuffed auto. "The palm was our only disguise," said "Izzy" later, "and it went all right, except in one Ninth Avenue place, where a big Irish bartender said 'was a sacrifice for men with our faces to wear the palm, and threatened to throw us out.'"

15 SACKS OF N. Y. MAIL LOOTED BY R. R. THIEVES

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Ia., April 10.—Robbery of a mail car containing parcel post from New York to Council Bluffs was reported to-day by Post Office Inspector Glenn. Fifteen pouches had been opened en route, and apparently selected contents stolen. The car had been padlocked at New York. An estimate of the loss was impossible, officers said. Details as to the road, train and route involved were withheld.

DISRESPECT TO POLICE BRINGS JAIL SENTENCE

"I am going to teach the young men of Brooklyn that our police officers are to be respected," declared Magistrate Elbertin in the State Avenue Court to-day. He sentenced two young men to ten days each in the workhouse, for being disrespectful to policemen. They were Joseph Miller and Charles Hulse. Patrolman Mullins of the Ralph Avenue station said they were intoxicated last night and annoyed pedestrians at

Broadway and DeKalb Avenue, Mullins told them to move along, and Hulse replied: "To hell with you and the sergeant." Mullins was held for interfering with the arrest.



Sage Tea Turns Gray Hair Dark

ALMOST every one knows that Sage Tea and Sulphur, properly compounded, brings back the natural color and lustre to the hair when faded, streaked or gray. Years ago, the only way to get this mixture was to make it at home, which is messy and troublesome. Nowadays, by asking at any drug store for "Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur Compound," you will get a large bottle of this famous old recipe, improved by the addition of other ingredients, at a small cost.

Don't stay gray! Try it! No one can possibly tell that you darkened your hair, as it does it so naturally and evenly. You dampen a sponge or soft brush with it and draw this through your hair, taking one small strand at a time; by morning the gray hair disappears, and after another application or two your hair becomes beautifully dark, glossy and attractive.

Real Kid GLACE GLOVES For Women

94c a pair

(What an extraordinarily low price!)

This unusual purchase is composed of full pique sewn gloves, with hand knotted embroidery. Two clasps.

In brown, tan, gray, beaver,
and black and white.

—Main Floor, Center, Front

R. H. Macy & Co.
Herald Square Inc. New York

THE QUALITY OF GAS

The Consolidated Gas Company, in its annual report to its stockholders on January 22, 1922, said:

"From time to time during the year, testimony has been taken by the Public Service Commission as to the advisability of discontinuing now in New York City, as has already been done in the rest of the State, the Nation and the world, the candle-power standard of quality for gas and substituting therefor a thermal-unit standard.

"The oft-reiterated position of this Company on this question has been made very clear on various occasions during the year, to the effect that, within the limits of operating possibility, this Company and its subsidiaries do furnish, and will continue to furnish, to their consumers, gas of such standard of candle-power or heating value as may be desired and directed by the public through its official representatives, and that this Company will, in turn, require the payment of a reasonable rate for gas of the quality thus prescribed. So long as 22-candle-power gas is prescribed for this City by statute or Commission order, the Company will continue to furnish that quality of gas and will expect to be paid therefor a commensurate rate.

"This attitude of compliance with the regulatory requirements does not alter in any respect the desire of the Company to be authorized to furnish to its consumers gas of the quality which will render to them the most efficient and economical service, and to adjust its rates to that end. The Company's executives and engineers realize, of course, that continuance of the 22-candle-power standard does not give the maximum results to the user of gas, in proportion to the price necessitated by the cost of making gas of that standard. They have not refrained from disclosing their opinion or the facts upon which it is based, when interrogated by the regulatory authorities or by representative consumers."

In the report made to the Commission, on December 22, 1921, by the Joint Conference Committee created by the Commission, the Company's representatives, after setting forth their view that the consumers ought to have the benefit, in reduction in rate, of such economies in manufacturing cost as are secured through a change in standard, added:

"The Company representatives state their inability to join in the recommendation of any 'block' schedule contingent upon the adoption of a 550 British thermal-unit standard which does not give to the small consumers a contemporaneous reduction in the charge for gas consumed."

That attitude has not been changed. At the opening of the hearings instituted by the Commission, on its own motion, to ascertain whether a change to a thermal standard would be in the public interest, counsel for the Consolidated Gas Company and its affiliated companies said, on February 6, 1922:

"We are here pursuant to an order of the Commission. As to neither of the subject matters of this inquiry is there any petition before this Commission from these companies—neither as to a change in standard nor as to the establishment of graduated rates. Our position in a very few words is this: We have in the past, and we shall in the future, supply to our consumers the quality of gas which is prescribed by the public policy of the State, whether that is 22 candle-power or some lesser candle-power or some standard of thermal content.

"I am not relying in that respect solely upon the companies' own tests. We have recently seen published in one of the newspapers the detailed tests made by the City of New York with respect to each one of the Consolidated Companies, and each one of their plants, over a period of three or four years; * * * and it appears that in the case of no company, no

plant, no year, was there a violation or a falling below 22 candle-power.

"We know, if the matter becomes pertinent, that the present candle-power standard is wasteful of oil. We know that we can give to all consumers at least as good service, and to most of them much better service, at a less cost to manufacture than would be the result of continuing an obsolete standard; but, so far as the companies are concerned, the question whether this saving shall be effected and the question of what standard is best for this City, is not a matter as to which we take issue."

The views above expressed as to the desirability of change to a modern standard have been sustained by every witness who has testified before the Commission with any technical training or first-hand knowledge of the experience of other States and countries. The expert public representatives, whose testimony has been given solely from the point of view of the public interest, have included the following, all summoned by the Commission:

Charles D. Jenkins, Chief of the Gas Inspection Department of Massachusetts, which has had a 528 thermal-unit (commonly called B.t.u.) standard in effect since 1917. Edward J. Cheney, until recently Chief Gas Engineer of the New York Public Service Commission, Second District, under the authority of which a 555 B.t.u. standard has been in force since 1916 for all of the State except New York City.

Philander Betts, Chief Engineer of the Public Utilities Commission in New Jersey, which has had a 525 B.t.u. standard in effect since 1920.

Albert I. Phillips, formerly of the United States Bureau of Standards, now service engineer of the American Gas Association.

William Merrifield, Gas Engineer of the New York Public Service Commission.

This expert opinion is not confined to regulatory authorities or company engineers. Mr. A. S. B. Little, Gas Engineer of the Illinois Commission until 1920 and since then the principal witness for the City of New York in gas-rate cases, testified in a local Court:

"Q. Is it your judgment that the maintenance of this candle-power standard, while it may operate to the benefit of the oil companies, does not operate to the benefit of the public?"

"A. It does not operate to the benefit of the public. * * *

"Q. Is it your judgment this candle-power standard is a wrong standard?"

"A. Certainly.

"Q. Do you think it is the proper way to measure the value of the gas at all?"

"A. I think it is a crime; that is what I think.

"Q. And it adds generally to the cost of making gas with out corresponding advantages to the consumers?"

"A. Correct; the consumers cannot get the advantage out of the gas at 22 candle-power."

The Annual Report of the New York City Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity for 1916 stated:

"High candle-power of gas is of value only where gas is used in open flame burners as an illuminant; where used for cooking and heating, and for lighting with mantle burners the constituents of the gas which enhance its illuminating power clog the burners and are a positive detriment in producing heat and light."

In accord with the testimony before the Commission advising a standard not higher than 550 B. t. u., Mr. Milo R.

Maltbie, employed by the City of New York and other municipalities as a witness in many cases before the Commission, recently recommended a 530 B. t. u. standard for the City of Philadelphia, saying:

"Naturally, in all heating, cooking and most industrial operations, it is heat that is desired; and the heat content of the gas is, therefore, the real measure of its usefulness. The only instance where candle-power is of any moment as a measure of utility is where gas is used for producing illumination in open-flame burners, and this is a wasteful method of securing light.

"Although heating value is the best measure of usefulness per unit of quantity, it does not follow that high heating standards are desirable. Indeed, the reverse may be true. * * * Cases of a low heating value contain less of these unsaturated hydrocarbons, can be efficiently burned through a wider range of adjustment, and are, therefore, more satisfactory as a general proposition under the varying condition of supply and use which must necessarily exist in a large city."

The United States Supreme Court, on March 6, 1922, said, as to gas supplied in the City of New York in 1918 and 1919:

"The calorific quality had become more important to most consumers than the illuminating one."

The United States Bureau of Standards in its recent edition of its Circular No. 32, "Standards of Gas Service," gives expert and disinterested advice:

"Gas was originally used almost exclusively for open-flame lighting and naturally, therefore, most of the early requirements as to the quality of the gas related to the amount of light produced in such burners—i. e., to the open-flame candle-power of the gas. However, at the present time cooking, water heating, mantle lighting, and industrial applications of gas consume by far the larger percentage of the total gas made, and in these operations it is the heat given out in combustion of the gas that is of importance to the user. Only a few per cent. of the gas distributed in this country is used in open flame, and, in fact, probably not over two per cent. of it should be so used, considering only economy to the consumer."

"As a result of this change in conditions, heating value requirements have largely replaced candle-power requirements. In fact the situation has so changed that there is no longer any justification for the adoption of new candle-power regulations. The heating value standard should supersede the candle-power requirement, and the latter should be dropped."

In general, it is believed that the best value for adoption will be found between 525 and 555 B. t. u. Where it can be shown that substantial economies will result, and that the public will receive as good or better service because of greater uniformity, and suitable limits are fixed to insure this, values even lower than this may be adopted."

It is not the expectation or desire of the New York gas companies to profit financially from any change in standard. Although as good or better service will be afforded to consumers by gas furnished under a thermal standard, the savings effected in manufacturing expense will be passed along to the public. The interest of the companies lies in being permitted to furnish a gas which will give to their patrons a more efficient and dependable service for the money paid, because it is only through good service that their business can grow and prosper.

CONSOLIDATED GAS COMPANY OF NEW YORK
Geo. B. Cortelyou,
President.